

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 AID-20 FRB-02 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

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DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:RDLORTON:HME

APPROVED BY NEA/INS:LBLAINGEN

ASIA/SA:JCOLES

SER/ENGR:BWATKINS

DOD/ISA:RLAWRENCE

EB/OA/AVP:CDUDLEY

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R 112246Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, ETRN, NP

SUBJECT: RESURFACING TRIBHUVAN AIRPORT RUNWAY

REF: KATHMANDU 682

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. NO AID GRANT OR LOAN FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR PORTABLE
RUNWAY PROJECT ENVISIONED REFTEL. HOWEVER, DSA REPORTS
PREVIOUS AVAILABILITY 3000 BUNDLES M8 MATTING OKINAWA.
CURRENT STATUS UNKNOWN. DATT MAY WISH QUERY CINCPAC
DIRECTLY. IF THIS SOURCE NO LONGER HAS MATERIAL
AVAILABLE, WE WOULD BE WILLING TO ASSIST IN PUTTING
GON IN TOUCH WITH COMMERCIAL SUPPLIERS OF MATTING.
DOD ADVISES MATTING NOT USUALLY RENTED BECAUSE IT IS
CONSIDERED NON-RECOVERABLE.

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2. WE HAVE GATHERED FOLLOWING DATA ON TWO TYPES OF MATTING AVAILABLE. M8 PERFORATED STEEL MAT COSTS DOLS 238 PER BUNDLE OF 268.8 SQUARE FEET (AT CURRENT PRICES). GON WOULD REQUIRE APPROXIMATELY 838 BUNDLES AT A TOTAL COST OF AT LEAST DOLS 200,000 PLUS SHIPPING TO MEET ITS NEEDS (225,000 SQUARE FEET BASED ON ESTIMATE OF 1500 FEET BY 150 FEET). FURTHER, EACH BUNDLE WEIGHS APPROXIMATELY ONE TON.

3. LIGHT WEIGHT AM-2 ALUMINUM MATTING ALSO AVAILABLE AT DOLS 6 PER SQUARE FOOT (1970 PRICES, WHICH IS LAST TIME

DEFENSE SUPPLIES PURCHASED) OR TOTAL COST OF AT LEAST DOLS 1.35 MILLION PLUS SHIPPING. THIS MATTING COMES IN SAME SIZE BUNDLES AS DOES M8 BUT WEIGHS ONLY ONE-THIRD AS MUCH.

4. AID ENGINEERS QUESTION NEED FOR TEMPORARY RUNWAY AT TRIBHUVAN AIRPORT. EXPERIENCES ON RUNWAY RESURFACING PROJECTS ELSEWHERE DEMONSTRATE IT MAY NOT BE NECESSARY SHUT DOWN AIRPORT. RATHER, RESURFACING WORK CAN BE COORDINATED WITH FLIGHT SCHEDULES IN SUCH A WAY AS TO HAVE LITTLE, IF ANY, EFFECT ON AIR TRAFFIC. YOU MAY WISH PASS THIS SUGGESTION ON TO GON IN CASE THIS APPROACH MIGHT BE USEFUL IN SPECIFIC SITUATION AT TRIBHUVAN. KISSINGER

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